An Nguyen

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SUMMARY

Cognitive scientist with with a focus on human perception and cognitive processes. 5 years of experience in experimental designs and data analysis/visualization. Familiar with NLP/NLU tasks and machine learning techniques, and experienced with many types of data: behavioral, eye-tracking, neuro-imaging, language analysis etc. Strong background in formal linguistics and experienced in building language models.

SKILLS

Programming Skills: Python, R, JavaScript

Languages: Vietnamese (native), English (fluent)

EDUCATION

Johns Hopkins University

Ph.D. in Cognitive Science — 2019 – present

M.A. in Cognitive Science — 2018 – 2019

Truman State University

B.S. in Psychology and Cognitive Science, Minor in Statistical Methods. *Valedictorian.* — 2013 - 2017

RELEVANT WORK EXPERIENCE

Graduate Researcher, LANGUAGE ACQUISITION LAB, JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY — 2018 – present

- First project: Investigated language acquisition using corpus data and computational linguistics
- Second project: Tested syntax theories using behavioral experiments and corpus analysis
- Third project: Created a Bayesian model of language acquisition in R and Python (PyMC3)

Lab Manager, LANGUAGE ACQUISITION AND BRAIN LAB**,** UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE — 2017 – 2018

- Conducted research on perception and learning using behavioral, eye-tracking and neuro-imaging techniques. Supervised 3 research assistants. Managed the lab's database and workflow
- Lead data analyst and programmer for the lab's computer-based experiments.
- Lead web developer for the online platform with multiple interactive tasks to collect behavioral data.

Statistical Consultant, CENTER FOR APPLIED STATISTICS & EVALUATION — 2015 – 2017

- Led a team of 3. Handled data analysis for several research projects and faculty grants
- Designed surveys and experiments, led focus groups, and generated statistical reports

Research Assistant, EEG LAB, TRUMAN STATE UNIVERSITY — 2016 – 2017

- Conducted research on human perceptual processes (audio-visual integration) activity using EEG

APA Summer Undergraduate Research Scholar, TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY — Summer 2016

- Conducted research on the aging brain using meta-analysis, neuroimaging and brain stimulation

Academic Trainer, STEP SCHOLARS PROGRAM — 2016 – 2017

- Tutored STEM subjects, including Computer Science, Mathematics, and Statistics.
- Graded homework for advanced statistics courses.

AWARDS

- Science of Learning Fellowship *for multidisciplinary approaches in studying cognition* — 2020 – 2021
- Graduate student travel award — Spring 2020
- Dorothy Pearson Foundation Scholarship *for outstanding students in* ***Statistics*** — 2016
- Harold L. Hess and Ozella M. Hess Foundation Scholarship *for academic excellence* — 2015
- President's Honorary Scholarship *for outstanding incoming students* — 2013
- President's List x 8 semesters — 2013 - 2017

RELEVANT COURSEWORK

Computational Linguistics: Computational Linguistics; Computational Psycholinguistics; Human & Computer Cognition; Intro to Human Language Technology

Computer Science: Object-oriented programming and design; Foundations of Neural Networks; Machine Translation; Machine Learning – Deep Learning

Statistics: Statistical Computing; ANOVA; Linear Regression; Biostatistics; Advanced R

PUBLICATIONS

PAPERS

1. **Nguyen, A.,** & Legendre, G. (2020). Covert movement in English probing wh-questions. In *Proceedings of Linguistic Society of America 2020 Annual Meeting*. 5(1). 180-186.
2. Bernard, JA, **Nguyen, A**, Hausman, HK, et al. (2020). Shaky scaffolding: Age differences in cerebellar activation revealed through activation likelihood estimation meta-analysis. *Human Brain Mapping*. 2020, 1– 27.

TALKS

1. **Nguyen, A.,** & Legendre, G. (2020). Testing syntactic simplicity: wh-in-situ vs. fronted wh-questions in L1 acquisition. Talk at *Many Paths to Language Max Planck Institute Conference,* Nijmegen, The Netherlands. Acceptance rate: **23.5%**
2. **Nguyen, A.,** & Legendre, G. (2020). The acquisition of English wh-in-situ. Talk at the *Linguistic Society of America 2021 Annual Meeting*, San Francisco, CA. Acceptance rate: **35.2%.**
3. **Nguyen, A.** (2020). The acquisition of English wh-in-situ. *Brown Bag talk at the Cognitive Science Department, Johns Hopkins University,* Baltimore, MD.
4. **Nguyen, A**., & Kozloff, V. (2017). Statistical learning and language. Talk at *the Experimental Group Meeting at the Department of Linguistics and Cognitive Science*, University of Delaware, Newark, DE.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

1. **Nguyen, A.,** Howe, W., & Legendre, G. (2020). English-speaking children's acquisition of wh-in-situ. Poster at *Generative Approaches to Language Acquisition North America 6*. Reykjavík, Iceland. Acceptance rate: **45%**
2. Weng, Y.L, **Nguyen, A.,** Ryskin, R., & Qi, Z. (2020). Prediction and sentence ambiguity resolution: A simultaneous eye-tracking and EEG study. Poster at *33rd Annual CUNY Human Sentence Processing Conference*, Amherst, MA.
3. Schneider, J., Arnon, I., **Nguyen, A.**, Medez, K., & Qi, Z. (2019). Does prior language experience hinder statistical learning? Poster presented at *Boston University Conference on Language Development*, Boston, MA.
4. Schneider, J., Weng, Y., Kozloff, V., **Nguyen, A.**, & Qi, Z. (2019). Neural sensitivity to speech distribution information underlise statistical learning. Poster presented at *Neurobiology of Language*, Helsinki, Finland.
5. Qi, Z., **Nguyen, A.**, Ozernov-Palchik, O., Beach, S., May, S., Arciuli, J., & Gabrieli, J.D.E. (2018). Statistical learning in reading development and reading impairment. Poster presented at *Boston University Conference on Language Development*, Boston, MA.
6. **Nguyen, A.**, Sanchez Araujo, Y., Georgan, W., Arciuli, J., & Qi, Z. (2018). Re-examine the reliability of statistical learning tasks across domains and modalities. Poster presented at *Psychonomic Society Annual Meeting*, New Orleans, LA.
7. Kozloff, V., **Nguyen, A.**, Arciuli, J., & Qi, Z. (2018). Statistical learning in a noisy environment is associated with vocabulary. Poster presented at *Boston University Conference on Language Development,* Boston, MA.
8. Mendez, K., **Nguyen, A.**, Kozloff, V., & Qi, Z. (2018). The role of native language in statistical learning success. Poster presented at *University of Delaware's ninth annual Undergraduate Research and Service Scholar Celebratory Symposium*, Newark, DE.

MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW

1. Schneider, J., Arnon, I., **Nguyen, A.**, Mendez, K., & Qi, Z. *The relationship between statistical learning and prior language experience.*
2. **Nguyen, A.,** & Legendre, G. *Distinguishing among in-situ wh questions in English: echo versus probing questions.*
3. **Nguyen, A.,** & Legendre, G. *The acquisition of wh-questions: Beyond structural economy and input frequency.*